

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SCI-06 IO-14 OIC-04 AEC-11 AECE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2977

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS PRIORITY

USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T BONN 08873

SHAPE FOR INTAF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, GW

SUBJECT: MBFR LINKAGE BETWEEN PHASES

REF: (A) BONN 8766, (B) USNATO 3103

1. RUTH MADE CLEAR TO EMBOFF JUNE 5 THAT BONN'S ACQUIESCENCE TO CAUTIOUS AHG USE OF REVIEW PROVISION WITH SOVIETS IN NO WAY ALTERS FUNDAMENTALLY CIRCUMSPECT FRG APPROACH TO EMPLOYMENT IN VIENNA OF NATO GUIDANCE ON LINKAGE. IN PARTICULAR, RUTH RECALLED CONCERN HE HAD VOICED WITH EMBOFF ON SINGLING OUT SOVIET FORCES REGARDING WITHDRAWAL PROVISION (REF A) AND WELCOMED FUZZIER DUTCH FORMULATION APPROVED JUNE 4 BY SPC ON THAT ISSUE (REF B).

2. RECALLING CONVERSATION REPORTED IN BONN 8103, RUTH

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SAID FRG CONTINUED TO BELIEVE TIME NOT RIPE FOR

LAVISHING SOVIETS WITH WESTERN CONCESSIONS ON LINKAGE. RUTH STRESSED THAT WESTERN CONCESSIONS ARE NOT LIMITLESS. HE STATED THAT SOVIET DEL AFFORDED IMPRESSION IN VIENNA OF READINESS TO ACCEPT ALLIED CONCESSIONS, WHILE AWAITING COMPLETION OF HIGH LEVEL MOSCOW REVIEW OF EAST-WEST ISSUES IN WAKE OF HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL CHANGES IN THE WEST.

3. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, RUTH DID NOT CONSIDER IT PROPITIOUS TIME TO UTILIZE ALL ASPECTS OF ALLIED GUIDANCE ON LINKAGE. BESIDES FUZZIER REPLY ON REVIEW PROVISION, HE PREFERRED "NOT TO BE TOO SPECIFIC" AT THIS POINT ON FIXED PERIOD OF TIME. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT CANADIAN FORMULATION ON GENERAL COMMITMENT (USNATO 3062) DID NOT ADVANCE THE BALL VERY FAR, BUT CONSIDERED IT SUFFICIENT FOR PRESENT PURPOSES, SHOULD UK GO ALONG.

4. COMMENT: WE RECOGNIZE THAT ABOVE REMARKS BY RUTH DO NOT ALWAYS JIBE UNSWERVINGLY WITH THE POSITIONS STATED IN VIENNA BY BEHREND. ONE REASON FOR RUTHS CAUTIOUS APPROACH MAY BE EXPOSURE TO INCREASED SKEPTICISM IN FONOFF CONCERNING SOVIET FOREIGN POLICY GOALS. ANOTHER MAY BE INTENSELY CAUTIOUS APPROACH OF DEFENSE MINISTRY OFFICIALS, WHO MADE ESSENTIALLY THE SAME POINTS TO EMBOFF AS HAD RUTH, EXCEPT IN FAR STRONGER TERMS. HILLENBRAND

SECRET

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